identical concentration to THE method, ~~according to one of claims 2 to 8,~~ B) the reduction of the light absorption or light emission per time unit is determined for each prospective thrombin inhibitor and compared to the light absorption or light emission per time unit of a given, preferably identical concentration of hirudin determined under identical conditions, C) those prospective thrombin inhibitors are selected the reduction of the light absorption or light emission of which per time unit corresponds to at least 10 % of the corresponding reduction when hirudin is used.

For the test kit according to the invention and the thrombin inhibitors found according to the invention apply the detailed explanations as given above for the method according to the invention.

As far as meizothrombin or Mtdesfgl, resp., is used, this can commercially be bought, for instance from Pentapharm AG, Switzerland, can however also be produced at immobilized ecarin according to the statement in document US-A-5,547,850.

The devices to be used for the invention are for instance semi or fully automatic coagulation devices being present anyway. These may for instance be automatic coagulation analyzers of the type Sysmex CA-500 or S2000 of the company Dade-Behring or of the type Electra 2000. In the CA-500, the light emitted by a LED is sent through a filter (405 nm) and then through the sample. The CA-500 determines in the chromogenic channel the variation or reduction of the light absorption of dyes, as for instance pNA (p-nitroaniline). If there is for instance hirudin in a sample, the generated or added meizothrombin or Mtdesfgl, resp., is inactivated, with the consequence of a thereby inhibited pNA release. The as such differently behaving (changing) optical density of the sample is recorded by a photodiode, and is evaluated. The monitored change in the light absorption is inversely proportional to the hirudin activity.